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THE MONTHLY GULL BULLETIN

Volume 47 | Berkeley, Calif. | October 1965 | Number 10

OCTOBER MEETING: — "SEASHORE ECOLOGY"

The regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held **Thursday, October 14,** at the First Unitarian Church in San Francisco, Franklin and Geary Streets.

A. Warren Larson, President of Golden Gate Audubon Society, will present an illustrated talk on Seashore Ecology.

The evening will start with a social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner ($1.50 per person) at **6:30.** Our meeting will begin promptly at **7:30.** Vi Drescher and Bonnie Smith are again in charge of the dinners. (All profit goes to the Canyon Ranch Fund. Volunteers to help set or clear the tables will be welcome.) Please call or write for dinner reservations **before Wednes,-day, October 13:** Vi Drescher, 1585-8th Ave., S.F. 22 (LO 6-0742) or Bonnie Smith, 555 Dewey Blvd., S.F. 16 (OV 1-7635). — RICHARD and MARY LEINBACH, *Program Co-Chairmen.*

OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, October 2, boat trip off Monterey coast. See your September *Gull* for details.

Saturday, October 23, Point Reyes Peninsula for migrating land and shore birds. Meet at **8a.m.** at Point Reyes National Seashore Headquarters at Olema. Leader: Marie Mans, 848-5186.

Thanksgiving weekend (November 25-28) to Tule Lake and Klamath Falls. If you are interested in the trip call me no later than **October 15.** The refuge manager must be notified of the number in our group, and travel means must be clarified by then. Suggestions for travel are as follows: public transportation and thence by rented cars from Klamath Falls, or private car motor pools from the Bay Area. All car costs will be on a share the cost basis. If you plan to be included in group traveling, make motel reservations in Klamath Falls in any motel North on U.S. 97 for the nights of November 25, 26 and 27. — MRS. VALERIA DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman.*

"NATURE'S PLANS & PUZZLES" — OCT. 18

"Nature's Plans and Puzzles" by Naturalist-Photographer Chester P. Lyons will open the Golden Gate Audubon Society's 15th season of Audubon Wildlife Films on **Monday, October 18** at **8:15 p.m.** in the Berkeley Little Theatre.

Against the magnificent backdrop of British Columbia scenery, ranging from dense coastal forests through deserts to alpine heights, this outstanding film will explore a great variety of nature's wonders. Dramatic close-ups will show how wonderfully birds are adapted for their individual ways of life. Shorebirds, birds of prey, and nesting colonies of pigeon guillemots, gulls, and cormorants provide a field of study in nature's plans and puzzles.

Mammals from the smallest in size – the shrew – to British Columbia's largest – the moose – come in for scrutiny as do many unusual insects, reptiles and amphibians. Finally, because it is so fast disappearing from the scene, and is so little understood, the best remaining group of huge Indian totem poles is shown – each carved with birds and and animals to a careful plan.

C. P. "Chess" Lyons was born near Regina, Saskatchewan, but his family moved to British Columbia a few years later. He graduated from the University of British Columbia in Forest Engineering.

In later years, his work with the Parks Division of the British Columbia Forest Service took him to many of the most scenic areas of the province. He was so impressed with what he saw that he began writing about it. His published works include books on the historic Fraser Canyon, the Okanagan Valley and Vancouver Island, as well as *Trees, Shrubs, and Flowers to Know in B.C.,* now in its third printing. He also compiled a similar work on the State of Washington and has been a frequent contributor to newspapers and magazines.

As officer in charge of special projects in British Columbia's Department of Recreation and Conservation, Mr. Lyons has experienced several fields of interest. He designed and supervises the "Stops of Interest" program along the highways of British Columbia. He is currently involved in the restoration of the pioneer gold-mining town of Barkerville in the Cariboo. His memberships include the Association of British Columbia Foresters, the American Institute of Park Executives and the American Association of Historic Site Public Officials.

Mrs. Frances Ellen Fallgatter, Wildlife Film Chairman, reminds us to order season tickets for the Audubon Wildlife Films while they are still available. They are $5.00 for five films. Single admission tickets will be $1.50. Students under 18 may buy season tickets for $3.00 and single admission for $1.00. Please write to Audubon Wildlife Films, P.O. Box 103, Berkeley, enclosing your check to Golden Gate Audubon Society with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The other four films in the 1965-66 series will be:

"Inherit the Wild" by D. J. Nelson – Monday, **November 22**
"Northwest to Alaska" by Walter H. Berlet – Monday, **January 3**
"Essence of Life" by G. Clifford Carl – Wednesday, **February 9**
"Stepping Stones to Australia" by Patricia B. Witherspoon – Monday, **March 7**

The Berkeley Little Theatre is on Allston Way at Grove Street and the doors will open at 7:45 p.m.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Cuckoo Trip, August 14 and 15. The first uncomfortably warm night of all Cuckoo trips to Aden's and an overcast morning may have had a bit to do with the bird's untypical behavior on Saturday A.M. He called differently and flew languidly the one time we did see him at a distance.

On Saturday at 2:20, the Sacramento Audubon's Mr. and Mrs. Mat Molmen who had been sitting quietly by their house trailer at the far end of the campground for an hour, had as guests a pair of Cuckoos who sat fully exposed and properly lighted in a tree fifty feet away about ten feet up and watched the watchers for several minutes.

At 7:07 P.M. Saturday it called from its favorite tree at the river crossing. (Friday it had called at 6.20 P.M. by the pond.) At 7:15 one flew from across the river and joined its possible mate in this tree for a game of chase. Soon a short-tailed one replaced the other two.

Saturday night and Sunday morning were clear and cool. We all saw one or two in this tree but were looking partially toward the sun. Their calling was mostly the keow part. As we saw them fly only a few feet at a time, we were not treated to their typical strong deep-winged flight. Later in the morning as we came back the eastern levee, one flew into a cottonwood where the entrance road hops over the levee.

The warmth of Friday night was accompanied by a screech owl at 9:30 and by five great horned owls talking at once near one o'clock around Hq. A gray fox crossed our path Saturday morning and was in camp at bedtime that evening.

Most of the 30 birders saw and heard the Cuckoo — but not well like last year. — OLIVER I. ALLEN, *Leader.*

Bodega Bay Trip, August 21. Over 45 members and friends studied the birds of the shore and sea from Doran Park at Bodega Bay. Ruddy turnstone, osprey, and an Arctic loon in a confusing form of moult were the highlights. After lunch near Salmon Creek the group proceeded to Duncan's Landing where black turnstones, surfbirds, oystercatchers and wandering tattlers were seen. The day's list included 62 species.

— CARLYLE SATHER, *Leader & Historian*

Monterey Boat Trip, August 28. Surprisingly, the Pacific was mild and the weather warm for the pelagic trip. Guy McCaskie and Rich Stallcup produced many interesting species. Most unusual was an abundance of Arctic terns. For two European visitors on the boat the black-footed albatross, close enough for good pictures, was a real treat. — VAL DaCOSTA.

Rodeo Lagoon, September 4 and 8. Countless thousands of sooty shearwaters were seen in the outer Bay on both dates. Jaegers pursuing elegant terns were watched at close range. Northern phalaropes and brown pelicans were abundant in the lagoon. Fall warblers were in good numbers. — VAL DaCOSTA and LAURENCE CURL, *Leaders.*

OBSERVATIONS

According to Marin Audubon's September *Redwood Log,* Grace Miller and Alice Williams saw an American redstart and common nighthawk at Point Reyes Lighthouse on June 18, and Lynn and Karyn Stafford closely observed two pileated woodpeckers near Mountain Theater on Mount Tamalpais in July.

On August 11 in Redwood Regional Park, Oakland, a Nashville warbler was foraging on aphis-covered poison hemlock (*conium maculatum*) — observed by Florence Richardson and Vi Homem.

On August 27 Val DaCosta saw two skuas in San Francisco Bay at Fort Point and an Eastern phoebe at Rodeo Lagoon on September 1.

On August 31 Claire Hellman and Grace Lambert found a Lewis' woodpecker eating almonds in Orinda at Miner Road and Oak Lane.

September 6 at Rodeo Lagoon Florence Plymell and Val DaCosta saw three lazuli buntings.

September 11 — A "million" sooty shearwaters were just off shore between Stinson Beach and Muir Beach. About 7:15 p.m. we were driving home from the Golden Gate Audubon picnic at Canyon Ranch when the sounds of the birds attracted our attention and prompted us to stop the car. The sight below was unbelievable. — Bob and Val DaCosta.

Los Angeles Audubon's September *Western Tanager* reports that an unusual nesting species in Southern California this summer was the cedar waxwing: "A mating pair was closely studied by Eleanor Pugh at Doheny Beach State Park. Young were out of the nest by July 11."

The *Western Tanager* also reports that a white-tailed tropicbird has been observed again flying among the gliders on weekends, west of the Loyola campus, near Lincoln and 83rd. Furthermore, a brown booby was photographed July 4 at San Miguel Island, and an adult male chestnut-sided warbler was photographed in late June at Tijuana Riverbottom.

CALIFORNIA CONDOR FUND

Carl W. Buchheister, President of the National Audubon Society, sent Golden Gate Audubon Society the following letter:

"I have been notified of your Society's most generous contribution of $200 for the Condor Fund, and on behalf of the Directors and Officers of the Society, I wish to thank you all personally for this very helpful gift.

"I need hardly tell you how much this contribution is appreciated, and how grateful we are for this heartwarming evidence of your support of our Society. Our need is great for the protection of this critically endangered species, and therefore your help is so warmly appreciated."

SLIM FLIGHTS OF DUCKS FORECAST

Director John S. Gottschalk of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has revealed that a larger-than-expected hunter kill last winter reduced the continental duck breeding population to the lowest level since reliable surveys were started in 1947. As a result, no increase in fall flights is forecast this year, despite better nesting conditions after several years of drought in the Canadian "duck factory." — *Audubon Leader's Conservation Guide,* 8/15/65.

EAST AFRICAN TRIP

Grace Miller, Marin and Golden Gate field trip leader, has given us the following notice:

There is an opportunity for three or four birders to go on a 40 or 50-day East African trip next summer, personally conducted by John Williams, author of that area's guide book. Write to him at Box 729, Nairobi, Kenya, or to Mrs. Gus Miller, Inverness, Calif. 94937.

MEMORIAL GIFTS TO AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Gifts of remembrance were made to Audubon Canyon Ranch:

In Memory of:	*Gift of:*
Mrs. John Rapp	Ann Follis
Horton and Genevieve Blair	R. Adm. and Mrs. Barton E. Bacon, Lucile K. Czarnowski
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Bert Harwell Memorial Fund	Pasadena Audubon Society and Dorothy E. Askin
Eve Foree	Ethel E. Richardson
Lillie Terry Brayton	Mrs. Julia LaSalle

— DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman.*

NOTE: Non-memorial contributions to Canyon Ranch may be sent to Audubon Canyon Ranch, P.O. Box 2113, San Francisco, California, 94126.

U.C. LECTURE SERIES ON REDWOODS

University of California Extension will present two series of lectures on the California Redwoods this fall. Speakers will explore the redwoods' early history, the important physical and biological features of the redwood community and its role in the State's economy, and the continuing problem of conservation.

One series of six lectures will be given on Mondays at 8 p.m. in the U.C. Extension Center, 55 Laguna St., San Francisco, beginning November 8. The Berkeley series of six lectures will be on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in 155 Dwinelle Hall, U.C. campus, beginning November 9. The series fee will be $12. For further information please write or telephone Letters and Science Extension, University of California, Berkeley, 94720; THornwall 5-6000, Ext. 1061.

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GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917 A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

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Canyon Ranch Fund Raising	Mrs. Myra Browne	482 Broadmoor, San Leandro	568-1921

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Editor. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, $8.50 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately $2.00 per year.

Visit the Conservation Center of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
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